



October 21, 2021

**Memo to the City Council from the Commission on Persons with Disabilities
Regarding the November 2, 2021 City Council Meeting, Agenda Item 5-F**

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Councilmembers,

The Commission on Persons with Disabilities (CPD) met on October 13, 2021, and heard a presentation from City Clerk Lara Weisiger about the continued suspension of certain provisions of the Sunshine Ordinance and the implementation of AB 361.

The CPD appreciates the incredible work by staff and the City Council to restructure meetings to allow them to continue in a way that prioritizes the health, wellbeing, and accessibility of our community members. The CPD strongly supports the City Council taking affirmative action every 30 days to continue to allow virtual meetings that do not disclose an individual's physical location, and during a global pandemic, do not invite people to the private homes of members of the legislative body.

If the City Council considers moving toward a hybrid meeting model in the future, the CPD recommends against requiring any number of people to participate in person, in order to protect our most vulnerable community members.

The Commission believes that the pandemic has opened up opportunities for accessible participation that are critical to maintain. As we continue to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and eventually begin to recover, the CPD encourages the City Council to build on the increased access for Alameda residents and businesses that has been so well established.

Sincerely,

Commission on Persons with Disabilities